

The Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee offered the following substitute to SB 599:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional engineers and land surveyors, so as to change a definition; to change requirements for eligibility for certification as a land surveyor-in-training and for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 15 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional engineers and land surveyors, is amended by striking subparagraph (D) of paragraph (6) of Code Section 43-15-2, relating to definitions, and inserting a new subparagraph to read as follows:

"(D) The design, platting, and layout, ~~incidental to~~ including subdivisions of any tract of land by a land surveyor, of:

(i) Grading plans and site plans;

~~(ii) Erosion and sediment control plans, including detention ponds, provided that no impoundment shall be designed on a live (perennial) stream; provided, further, that such detention ponds:~~

~~(I) Contain no more than five acre-feet of water storage at maximum pool (top of dam) or are no more than ten feet in height for a dry storage pond;~~

~~(H) Are no more than six feet in height for a permanent (wet) storage pond; or~~

~~(HH) Contain no more than three acre-feet of water storage at maximum pool (top of dam) if the height is more than ten feet but less than 13 feet for a dry storage pond;~~

~~(iii)~~(ii) Storm water management plans and facilities, including hydrologic studies and temporary sediment basins, provided that the contributing drainage area shall not

be larger than 100 acres, including erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control plans, retention ponds, water quality ponds and facilities, and any artificial barrier which is not in excess of six feet in height regardless of storage capacity or which has a storage capacity at maximum water storage elevation not in excess of 15 acre-feet regardless of height; and

(iv)(iii) Extension of existing water distribution piping and gravity sewers, ~~eight inches in diameter or smaller, provided that off-site length shall not exceed 1,000 feet, the design and construction of which shall conform to the local government ordinances and regulations, and such extensions shall be subjected to the review and approval of a local government which has been delegated approval authority by the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources~~ not to include lift stations, pump stations, tanks, or other mechanical fixtures or structures;"

SECTION 2.

Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 43-15-12, relating to land surveyor-in-training certificates, and inserting in its place a new Code section to read as follows:

"43-15-12.

(a) To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant applying prior to July 1, 2008, must meet the following minimum requirements:

(1)(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board; or

(B) Earn an associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board and acquire not less than two years of combined office and field experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; or

(C) Earn a high school diploma, or its equivalent and acquire not less than four years' experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; and

(2) Acquire a minimum of ~~15 quarter~~ 12 semester hours' credit, or its equivalent, in land surveying subjects in a course of study approved by the board; provided, however, that ~~on and after January 1, 1995, the minimum requirement shall be 20 quarter hours' credit, five of which shall be~~ three semester hours are in hydrology; and

(3) Subsequently pass the board's written examination in the fundamentals of land surveying (land surveyor-in-training examination) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board.

(b) To be eligible for certification as a land surveyor-in-training, an applicant applying on or after July 1, 2008, must meet the following minimum requirements:

(1)(A) Earn a bachelor's degree in a curriculum approved by the board and acquire a minimum of 18 semester hours in land surveying subjects, including a minimum of three semester hours of hydrology;

(B) Earn an associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board and acquire a minimum of 18 semester hours in land surveying subjects, including a minimum of three semester hours of hydrology, and acquire not less than four years of combined office and field experience in land surveying of a nature satisfactory to the board; or

(C) Earn a high school diploma, or its equivalent, and acquire not less than eight years of progressive practical experience under a practicing professional land surveyor of a nature satisfactory to the board;

(2) Acquire a minimum of 18 semester hours in land surveying subjects, including a minimum of three semester hours in hydrology, from a curriculum approved by the board; and

(3) Subsequently pass the Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FLS) examination or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board."

SECTION 3.

Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 43-15-13, relating to land surveyor certificates of registration, and inserting in its place a new Code section to read as follows:
"43-15-13.

(a) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor, an applicant applying before July 1, 2010, must meet the following minimum requirements:

(1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) (a)(1)(A) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-12;

(B) Acquire a specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined office and field experience in land surveying with a minimum of three years' experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

(C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land surveying and or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying (land surveyor examination);

(2)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph ~~(B)~~ of paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) (a)(1)(B) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-12;

(B) Acquire an additional specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined office and field experience in land surveying which, together with the qualifying experience under subparagraph ~~(B)~~ of paragraph (1) (a)(1)(B) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes not less than four years' experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

(C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land surveying ~~and (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board and a written examination on~~ the laws of Georgia relating to land surveying (land surveyor examination); or

(3)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph ~~(C)~~ of paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) (a)(1)(C) and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-15-12;

(B) Acquire an additional specific record of not less than four years of experience in land surveying which, together with the qualifying experience under subparagraph ~~(C)~~ of paragraph (1) (a)(1)(C) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes not less than six years' experience in responsible charge of land surveying under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof and of a grade and character satisfactory to the board indicating that the applicant is competent to practice land surveying; and

(C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land surveying ~~and (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the board and a written examination on the~~ laws of this state relating to land surveying (land surveyor examination).

(b) To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a land surveyor, an applicant applying on or after July 1, 2010, must meet the following minimum requirements:

(1)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (b)(1)(A) of Code Section 43-15-12;

(B) Acquire a specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years of combined office and field experience in land surveying with a minimum of three years' experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

1 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
2 surveying (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the
3 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
4 (land surveyor examination);

5 (2)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (b)(1)(B)
6 of Code Section 43-15-12;

7 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of the equivalent of not less than four years
8 of combined office and field experience in land surveying which, together with the
9 qualifying experience under subparagraph (b)(1)(B) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes
10 not less than four years' experience in responsible charge of land surveying projects
11 under the supervision of a registered land surveyor or such other supervision deemed
12 by the board to be the equivalent thereof; and

13 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
14 surveying (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the
15 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
16 (land surveyor examination); or

17 (3)(A) Obtain certification as a land surveyor-in-training under subparagraph (b)(1)(C)
18 of Code Section 43-15-12;

19 (B) Acquire an additional specific record of not less than four years of experience in
20 land surveying which, together with the qualifying experience under subparagraph
21 (b)(1)(C) of Code Section 43-15-12, includes not less than eight years' experience in
22 responsible charge of land surveying under the supervision of a registered land surveyor
23 or such other supervision deemed by the board to be the equivalent thereof and of a
24 grade and character satisfactory to the board indicating that the applicant is competent
25 to practice land surveying; and

26 (C) Subsequently pass a written examination on the principles and practices of land
27 surveying (PLS) or any other examination as may be approved and required by the
28 board and a written examination on the laws of this state relating to land surveying
29 (land surveyor examination)."

30 **SECTION 4.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.